

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, or claims in the application.

5-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A disk drive comprising:

a head/slider having an air bearing surface for floating a slider over a rotating disk;

the disk having a disk substrate, a storage medium on at least a portion of a surface of the disk, the storage medium having a storage area for recording data, the disk having a circumferential landing zone on an area of the disk other than said storage area, the circumferential landing zone being partially textured;

the landing zone having a texture free zone which faces a minimum fly height area of the air bearing surface of the slider when the slider is landing and also having a circumferential bump zone adjacent to said free zone, the bump zone being formed with bumps protruding from the surface of said disk, the free zone having no bumps; and

a landing position control unit for moving the slider so that the minimum fly height area of said slider is positioned over the free zone of said disk storage medium when landing said slider;

~~The disk drive of claim 5~~ wherein the bumps have a height above the surface such that the minimum fly height area of the slider does not touch the surface of the disk during landing.

8-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a disk drive comprising the steps of:
rotating a disk under a slider having an air bearing surface and flying the slider over the
disk;
positioning the slider over an area on the disk Which includes a textured area and an
untextured area with the untextured area being under an area on the air bearing surface having a
lowest flying height;
reducing a rotation rate of the disk to allow a portion of the air bearing surface not having
the lowest flying height to contact the textured area of the landing zone first; and
stopping the disk;

~~The method of claim 9~~ wherein the textured area has a plurality of bumps protruding above a surface of the disk, the bumps having a height above the surface such that the minimum fly height area of the slider does not touch the surface of the disk during landing.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the bumps have a height above the surface equal to or greater than a difference DHI between a fly height of a rear end portion of a side rail and a fly height of a rear end portion of the center rail.